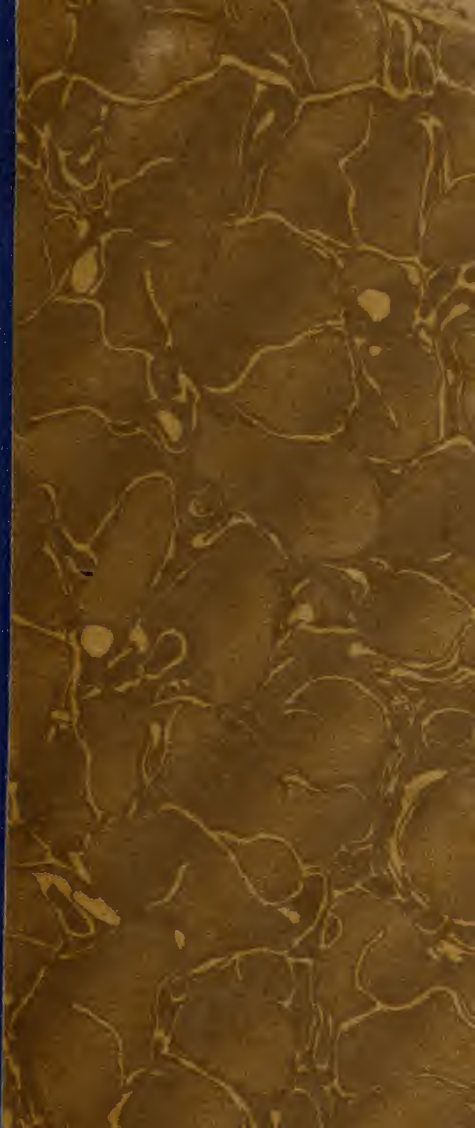


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The Rug Primer

A Little Booklet of Definitions
FOR THE BUYER & SELLER OF RUGS

Rike's

Republished from THE UPHOLSTERER for the Man Who Would Know

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The RUG PRIMER



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THE RUG PRIMER

To the man who knows it all and to the man who doesn't know so much after all, this little collection of good and bad definitions from THE UPHOLSTERER is humbly dedicated. In 1888, in the first issue of this book, we predicted that to the upholstery department rugs belonged as a natural decorative accessory, and our prediction has been fully verified.



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The RUG PRIMER FOR THE MAN WHO WOULD KNOW



AFGHAN.—The rugs bearing this name belong to the Bokhara class, and are similar in color, design and weave, but of a somewhat lower order of quality. The color is usually deep red, black and a little white, the design being a repetition of rectangular figures, or flat-cornered squares, the ground of the rug being red, the design black. In Afghan rugs the figures are larger than in the Bokhara rugs, the pile is longer and heavier ; the word "thickish " describes it. In size they run 6 x 9 to 8 x 11 feet. They may be classed as medium priced. They are made in Afghanistan and Bokhara, the majority being made by the women of the latter country.

AGRA.—A town in North-Central India. Agra rugs have an extra heavy pile and wear exceedingly well. They can be said to have no especial design character, as they are largely made from designs furnished by New York or London, and consequently they appear not only in reproductions of antique Indian, Persian and Turkish rugs, but in modern variations of old designs and in any colors desired. For the same reason all sizes

may be secured, not only in Agra rugs, but in any modern Indian rugs. Jail-made Agra and other Indian rugs are forbidden entry into the United States, those sold here being the product of independent looms.

AHMEDABAD.—A town in West-Central India. Rugs bearing this name are extra heavy, on the Agra style, and belong in the same general class, both in weave and design.

AINÉ.—A Persian word signifying an oasis or fountain, sometimes used in auction-sales or by retailers. It is not a specific trade term.

ALLAHABAD.—A town southeast of Agra, India, and producing the same quality of rug. Comparatively few rugs, however, are woven at Allahabad.

AKHISSAR.—A town in Adin, Turkey, in the Anatolian district. Population, about 12,000. Rugs of Akhissar have the deep pile characteristic of Anatolian rugs. (See ANATOLIAN.)

AMRITZAR.—A town in northern India. Rugs of Amritzar are similar to those of Agra, but cheaper in general quality. The pile is sheared closer, making it firmer to the touch.

ANATOLIA.—This is the large district in Turkey-in-Asia lying south of the Black Sea and west of Armenia, embracing several noted rug producing centres. Anatolian rugs have usually a very long pile, with a coarse, heavy Kazak weave. The colors are rich and the pile silky. The designs are both in prayer rug patterns and the usual geometrical Turkish patterns. In sizes Anatolians may be had from 3 x 5 feet up, sometimes long and narrow, in rare instances even extending to 3 x 14 feet. Oushak, a town of 25,000 inhabitants, with about 1,000 looms, is in this district. Koulah and Akhissar are important rug centres.

ANATOL JEJIM.—A jejim, generally known as a Bagdad, is a portiere or wall-hanging, lightly woven, but coarse. The ordinary Bagdad is woven in stripes, which are afterward sewn together. Another variety, the Mosque jejim, is woven in one piece, or, at most, in two, which are closely sewn together, and upon it is embroidered one or two mosques and other figures. The majority of jejims come from Anatolia.

ANATOLIAN KIS KILLIM (or *Kelim*).—The Kelim is a closely woven and quite coarse fabric for portieres. It has no pile. The Anatolian Kelim or Kis Killim is made in two long strips, which are joined in the middle.

The fabric has numerous small slits or openings made in the weaving, usually at the side of some figure in the pattern. In size, Anatolian Kelims vary from 3 x 4 to 7 x 15 feet, the smaller being made in one piece. The colors are bold and barbaric, the designs following the geometrical Turkish order.

ANGORA.—A province in Anatolia, Central Turkey-in-Asia, noted for the fine quality of wool produced. The wool of the Angora goat is esteemed among the best that enters into Oriental rugs. There is no rug properly bearing this title, although it is sometimes used by auctioneers and others.

ARDEBIL.—A famous Persian carpet, now in the South Kensington Museum, London. It was discovered in Ardebil, a Persian town on the west shore of the Caspian Sea, in the Province of Azerbaijan. According to the inscription woven upon it the rug was woven by "Maksoud, the Slave of the Holy Place, of Kashan," in 1535. Size, 34 feet by 17 feet 6 inches, containing 32,500,000 hand tied knots. Price paid by the museum, \$12,500.

ARDELAN.—A province in Western Persia, on the Turkish border, in the Kurdistan district. In this province is Kermanshah. There are probably no better rugs made than this province produces. They are hard when woven,

becoming softer with use, until they attain great softness. Close pile and unusual weight are characteristics. Many silk rugs are also woven. The inhabitants are mainly Kurds.

ASHABAD.—A town or hamlet in Persia, peopled by wandering Turkoman tribes, making numerous rugs of the usual Persian variety. The name is sometimes used by retailers, but has no commercial meaning.

ASHIRET.—An auction-sale term sometimes used in connection with Persian rugs. It has no especial significance.

AZERBAIJAN.—A province of Northern Persia, in which are located Tabriz, Derbend, Ardebil and other well-known rug centres. Many camels' hair rugs are woven, as well as those of wool and silk. Azerbaijan is just south of the Caucasian Mountains.

BAGDAD.—A city and province in Southern Turkey-in-Asia. The name Bagdad is used in this country to designate the *jejim* or *portiere*, composed of five or six stripes sewn together, and hence any striped fabric of Oriental design. The rugs of Bagdad have the characteristics of all rugs made in the Persian Gulf district, as Mosul in Turkey, Shiraz in Persia, etc.

BAKU.—A seaport on the Caspian in Russian Caucasia. It is a noteworthy shipping point for Persian rugs, and large quantities of Daghestan rugs are made in the vicinity. The name Baku is, consequently, sometimes given to rugs of the Shiraz or Daghestan quality.

BANDOUR.—The same as Ghiordes.

BELOOCHISTAN.—The country east of Persia, south of Afghanistan and north of the Arabian Sea. The rugs of Beloochistan are on the Bokhara order, but are always dark, some being nearly black. They are the cheapest of the four allied varieties made in the region west of India and east of Persia, being more loosely woven and having a longer pile. In order of quality the four varieties made in the region are Royal Bokhara, Yomud Bokhara, Afghan and Beloochistan.

BERGAMA.—A town in Asia Minor, population about 21,000. Bergama rugs are loosely woven, with a longish pile, and belong to the Anatolian class. They are usually nearly square, from 3 x 4 to 6 x 8 feet in size, and in a great variety of Turkish designs. They are woven with a coarse Kelim-like selvedge at each end, into which are usually woven beads or other charms against evil spirits, in some cases the beads being omitted and a small tri-

angle of the pile being woven into the selvedge, where it joins the body of the rug.

BELLORE.—A town in Southern India. A name sometimes used at auction-sales. Not a distinct variety of rug.

BIJAPORE.—A town in West-Central India, producing rugs similar in quality to those of Amritsar, with a close-sheared pile.

BIJAR (or *Bijawr*).—A town and state in India. Not a distinct variety; the term often used in auction sales to designate any Indian rugs.

BILOOZ.—Same as Beloochistan.

BIRJAND.—A town of Khorassan, Persia, producing rugs of the Khorassan variety. The name used as an auction-sale term, etc.

BOKHARA.—The country lying north of Afghanistan. The rugs known as Royal Bokhara are made by the Turkoman tribes of Bokhara and Turkestan, those of the Tekkin Turkoman being of unusually fine quality. The colors are principally red, in dark or light shades as a ground, with repeated squares or medallions in white, brown or green, regularly arranged. The medallions are smaller than Afghan rugs, and more care is taken in carry-

ing out the pattern. Royal Bokhara rugs have a short, closely woven pile and are better than Afghan or Khiva rugs. In size they run from 3 x 3 feet to 8 x 11 feet. The rug called Yomud Bokhara is not really a Bokhara in a strict sense. The design is not so good, the medallion being drawn out long, rather than square, while the red ground has a brownish tinge and is darker. The Yomud is better than the Afghan, but cheaper than the Royal Bokhara. The sizes average 6 x 9 feet to 8 x 11 feet, and even as large as 8 x 14 in rare instances.

CABISTAN (or *Kabistan*).—This is a specie of the Shirvan rug, but much finer, and is a well-made, closely woven rug, with short pile, and running as large, in some cases, as 6 x 9 feet. The colorings are artistic and the designs good, the palm design and characteristic corner pieces usually appearing. They are made near Shirvan.

CAMEL'S HAIR.—The long, woolly hair that grows abundantly on the underside of the neck, the upper part of the legs, and on the humps of the camel is largely used in weaving rugs, kelims, etc.; but a great portion of what is known as camel's hair, as, for instance, the gray borders of Hamadan strips, is simply the wool of the common sheep, dyed to imitate the color of camel's hair.

CANDAHAR.—Candahar rugs are made at Amritsar, in India; there are no rugs made at Candahar. It is an arbitrary name given by H. K. Bull, of Vantine & Co., to rugs made by a Lahore maker whom they persuaded to move to Amritsar, the name Candahar being chosen to distinguish his product from the ordinary Amritsar weaves.

CARABAGH (or *Karabagh*).—The Carabagh is a low grade rug of the Shirvan variety and made in the same district. A few years ago they were very popular on account of their cheapness, but the quality has grown poorer and the price higher. Antiques are rare, and the modern Carabagh has a heavier pile than the Shirvan and is less closely woven. The designs are geometrical figures, the colors fairly good. In size, Carabagh rugs usually run from 2 x 4 feet to 4 x 8 feet.

CARPET.—In Oriental rug parlance a carpet is any rug 6 x 9 feet or larger.

CASHMERE (or *Kashmir*).—The rug commercially known as the Cashmere is so called on account of its resemblance in weave to the shawls of Cashmere, being a pileless, closely woven fabric with long threads hanging loose on the reverse side, but it is not made in India nor in the Cashmere district, as the name implies, but in the Soumak section of

Persia, and is also known as the Soumak rug. The design is geometrical, showing medallions, etc., in a vast variety of arrangements. These rugs wear extremely well on the floor, being woven so closely as to be almost hard to the touch. Also used for couch covers. In Cashmere, India, two varieties of rugs are made, however. One is known as the "Gabhah," and is made of embroidered wool, the other is the "Namda," a felt rug ornamented with a bold outline pattern in colored silk.

CAUCASUS.—The portion of Southern Russia and Northern Persia lying west of the Caspian is known as the Caucasus, and the rugs classed as Caucasian are such as the Daghestan, Karabagh, Shirvan, etc., principally the cheaper grade, although some beautiful specimens come from this district. In this section are Tiflis, Derbent, Baku and Shusha, towns of prominence as productive or trading points.

CIRCASSIAN.—An arbitrary term, often used in auction-sales. There are no rugs made in Circassia, at least none of importance, and it is not a recognized trade term.

COULA (also spelled *Koula* and *Kulah*).—A town in Turkey, near Smyrna; population, about 17,000. Coula rugs were originally coarse and usually made with a hemp back. But with the growth of the rug business two

new grades have been produced, and the old hemp back rugs are not now made. The better grade now produced is the Mohair Coula, which has a very thick and silky pile, closely woven in a great variety of designs and a large range of sizes. It is a high-priced rug. The ordinary Coula is one of the coarsest carpet size rugs imported, and is inexpensive. The designs are the usual geometrical Turkish. Coula and Ghiordes represent the oldest rug-weaving district in Turkey, and antiques are very much sought after, bringing large prices. They run about 4 x 6 feet, and smaller.

DAGHESTAN.—Daghestan is a district in Caucasian Russia, on the Caspian Sea. Antique Daghestan rugs are of the firmest quality of wool, in richly varied and extremely soft colorings. They are now very rare, and are counted among the most beautifully woven and highly artistic antiques. Modern Daghestan are very cheap, but for the past two years there has been a scarcity in Constantinople, due, to some extent, to the great demand. The designs are geometrical, either in common or prayer rugs. There is usually a fringe, often brown-gray, like camel's hair. A great variety of colors are used on a white ground, the centre design of geometrical figures being surrounded, in most cases, by four or more narrow borders. In sizes they may be had from 3 x 4 to 5 x 6 feet.

DAMASCUS.—An auction-sale term. Damascus produces no marketable rugs.

DEMIRDJI (or *Demiodji*).—A town of 8,000 population, in Turkey. A carpet of the Ghiordes variety is made here by weavers originally brought from Ghiordes, which city is near by. It is a heavy carpet, and not many are now used, on account of the difficulty of securing them.

DERBEND (or *Derbent*).—A city in Azerbaijan, Persia. Modern Daghestan rugs are made in large quantities. The rug commercially known as the Derbend rug is a good, silky rug, about 5 x 10 feet, very heavy, of good wool and in strong barbaric designs. The colors are numerous, generally on a dark blue ground. The pile is deep and very thick, like a Kazak in texture.

DJOSHGAN.—This is a corruption of the word Thoshkan, a Persian village, and it is also written phonetically as Joshjams, etc. Djoshgans are among the finest Persian carpets, having a close, short, silky pile, the colors and designs being very beautiful. The design is generally a sort of scroll, carried throughout the surface and forming medallions, with the well-known Persian border. They are usually found in antiques, and \$3,000 to \$4,000 is not high for a good 10 x 18-foot specimen.

DO-RÜ (see *Ghileem*).—A pileless carpet of Luristan, Persia.

ELLOR.—Ellores are a variety of the Demiodji rugs, slightly better than the Ghiordes, and somewhat less valuable than the Demiodji, following closely the characteristics of both.

FARS OR FARŚISTAN.—A province in Persia, peopled by wandering Arabs and Kashkais, who make high-class rugs of the softest and best dyed wool. The designs, invented by the nomad women, vary each year. Shiraz is the largest town in the province.

FERAIDAN.—A Persian district ruled by Ispahan, weaving rugs in imitation of the Ferahan quality.

FERAGHAN (or *Ferahan*).—A town of Irak-Ajemi province, Central Persia. Here and at Sultanabad are woven the Ferahan rugs and carpets, which rate among the good, cheaper quality Persian. Made mostly in carpet sizes, they show chintz designs, repeating a vast number of times one small figure, with a border around the whole. They have a short pile, and the cotton warp that is distinctively a Persian characteristic.

GABHA.—A rug made in Kashmir, India, of

embroidered wool. The yarn used is very oily, and but few of the rugs are ever seen in this market. The word, in Turkish, signifies coarse.

GAROUS.—A district in Persia producing a good quality of rug, which of late years has improved in color and design.

GHILEEM (or *Do-rii*).—A pileless carpet of Luristan province, in Persia. It is of good quality, and is made, also, in Kurdistan. Woven on a very fine warp of woolen threads it is very flexible, can be washed, and is especially suitable for drapery purposes. Crimson and white are the prevailing colors, relieved by the design in black, dark brown and green, but occasionally golden yellow is used for a ground, with figures and borders in dark blue.

GHIORDES.—A town of thirty-two thousand population in Turkey. Antique Ghiordes rugs are an especially bright weave, famous for certain peculiar tints of red and yellow. They have a short pile, which causes the design to stand out sharply and clearly. The warp is usually cotton, which suggests Persian influence. The antiques are very valuable, and are used chiefly for wall-hangings, being really too light for floor use. The modern Ghiordes is an entirely different rug, and is one of the cheapest Turkish rugs, and like the

Bandour, which is practically the same thing, is a sort of lighter imitation of the Inelli and Demirjik. The designs are in large figures, usually in the well-known Turkish geometrical patterns. All sizes are made, from 6 by 9 feet up.

GOLREVAN (also spelled *Goravan, etc.*).—A fine quality of the Herez Persian rug, of which the finest are sometimes called Serapi. The medallion centre distinguishes the design, which is notable for dark, rich reds, and the beauty of all the colors used. It is one of the most durable rugs made in Persia. To obtain the soft coloring imparted by age, many of these rugs are now being washed and, as the acid used deteriorates the quality of the wool and makes it apt to crack, these washed rugs should be avoided.

GUENJE (or *Ghenge*).—This is one of the less expensive Turkish rugs, heavy and coarsely woven. It belongs to the same general class as the Carabagh and Kazak, coming from the Caucasian district. The design is the usual Turkish geometrical pattern, appearing with many minor variations. The sizes run from 3 x 5 feet up to 4 x 10 feet.

GULISTAN.—A Turkish rug, usually in carpet sizes. It is a very fine quality of the Demirjik carpet, similar in design and general characteristics.

HAMADAN.—A town in Persia, province of Irak-Ajemi. The Hamadan is perhaps the cheapest of all Persian rugs, and closely resembles the Herez in color and design. In each the medallion centre is a distinguishing feature, with more or less floriated designs, especially in the borders, but in many Hamadan rugs, especially the strips, the camel-hair border is prominent. It is a very durable rug. The sizes are as small as 2 feet 9 inches by 4 feet, and 3 feet by 4 feet 6 inches. Carpet sizes are also made, and many hall strips, some as long as 28 or 30 feet.

HAMADIEH (or *Hamidie*).—This and the Sparta are the two finest modern Turkish carpets. The genuine Hamadieh has some beautifully soft and delicate color effects, and costs in the neighborhood of \$1.25 to \$1.35 the square foot. The usual Turkish designs appear most often, but the Hamadieh carpets can be had in any designs submitted. The Hamadieh should not be confused with the Gulistan, which frequently takes its place.

HERAT.—This is the capital city of Afghanistan, but the rugs bearing the name are Persian, like the Khorassan in effect, but of heavier texture. They are very expensive, usually coming in fine antiques, of which some very choice pieces occasionally appear in the market. These rugs are long and nar-

now, sometimes twenty feet in length, and six, seven, or even eight feet wide.

HEREZ.—A Persian rug, about the same as the Golrevan, but of cheaper quality. It is a durable weave, and makes a satisfactory rug for general use. Large quantities are regularly imported.

HINDOOSTAN.—A broad term, covering all East Indian rugs of whatever make or quality.

INDIA.—The same as Hindoostan.

INELI (or *Einelli*).—This is identically the same rug as the Demirjik; another name for the same rug. It is of the Ghiordes quality and style, but heavier.

IRAK-AJEMI.—The largest rug-producing province of Persia, peopled largely by wandering Arabs. It is estimated that the province contains 150 villages engaged in rug making, with over 5,000 looms.

IRAN.—The native name for Persia. As applied to rugs it is a broad term, including all rugs and carpets made in Persia.

IRAN-SEDJEDES.—Literally, a small Persian rug; Iran meaning Persian, and Sedjedes denoting a small rug, about 4 x 6 feet, of any variety.

ISPAHAN (or *Isfayan*).—A town of Irak-Ajemi, Persia. The rugs of Ispahan are among the most famous of the very fine Persian rugs, and are extremely rare. It is almost impossible to secure a genuine specimen, and for authentic large antiques fabulous prices are paid. The design is most frequently a small figure repeated innumerable times, surrounded by a series of narrow borders. The weave is close, the pile short, and the rugs generally long and narrow.

JEFPORE.—A province and city of India, producing some very fine carpets, closely woven like the Amritzar variety. The designs generally follow the Persian or Indian style, but, as the looms are controlled, any design desired can be produced. Small Jefpore rugs, 3 x 2 feet in size, have recently been put on the market.

JEJIM.—(See *Anatol Jejim*.)

JOOSHAGAN (same as *Djoshgan*, which see).—A fine Persian carpet.

JUBBALPORE.—At one time very fine rugs were made at Jubbalpore, India, and the few antiques still extant are of great beauty, but probably none are now made. The name appears occasionally in auction catalogues.

KABISTAN.—(See *Cabistan*.)

KAIAN (or *Kayin*).—A town in Khorassan, Persia, near which many rugs are made, approximating in quality, etc., the Khorassan rugs.

KAMSEH (or *Khamseh*).—A province of Persia, peopled by wandering tribes of Shah-Sevans, who produce quantities of ordinary Persian wool rugs and prayer rugs.

KARABAGH.—(See *Carabagh*.)

KASHGAR.—In the Eastern Turkestan district. While not a regularly recognized trade term, this word often appears in auction-sale catalogues.

KASHMIR.—(See *Cashmere*.)

KAZAK.—A coarse, heavy rug, with long, very silky pile, made in the Caucasian district, and generally shipped by way of Tiflis. The designs usually follow the geometrical patterns, common to the rugs made in that section, and the rugs are often square or nearly so. There are few real Kazaks to be had, but plenty of Ghenjes, which are sometimes called Kazaks. Some antique Kazaks are very fine specimens of rug making, and show beautifully soft colorings.

KELIM (or *Killim*).—The Kelim is a closely woven, coarse fabric, without pile, and is used for portieres. (See *Anatolian Kelim*.) The Kurd or Shirvan Kelim is made in one piece, and is the product of the Kurdish men or women, while the Anatolian or Kis Kelim is the product of maidens; Kis, Kiz or Kus meaning a girl.

KENARI.—A general term meaning hall-rug, as, for example, Hamadan Kenari means a Hamadan hall-rug.

KERMAN (or *Kirman*).—A province and city of Persia, peopled by wandering tribes of Afshars, and producing some of the finest rugs made. Immense prices have been paid for some of the best antiques from this district. The weave is the finest and closest known, with a silkiness and lustre of the pile almost equal to silk and quite as effective. The antiques especially are extremely soft and velvety, and in these the old gold and ivory grounds are considered the finest product of the Oriental dyer. The designs are largely symbolical, the tree of life or cypress, with its boughs full of birds and fruits, is one of the most noticeable. The modern Kermans, which may be had in rug or carpet sizes, follow the same designs, or a medallion. They are very expensive.

KERMANSHAH.—Some of the best of the Kerman rugs are called Kerman-shah. Kermanshah is a city of Ardelan province, Persia, and it is probable that in ancient days the same tribes inhabited this city and the province of Kerman. It is certain that some wonderful rugs were made at Kermanshah, and that their characteristics are found in the better Kerman rugs of to-day.

KHALI.—A general term, meaning a rug of medium size.

KHIVA.—The same as *Afghan*, which see for description.

KHORASSAN.—A province in Northeastern Persia, producing great quantities of rugs, which usually run in brilliant red grounds, with boldly relieved medallion centres standing out in daring contrast to the grounds. They are found in antiques and moderns, the antiques having especially soft, rich colors. In the carpet sizes the Herati design or fish pattern frequently appears, with beautiful borders consisting of several series of well-conceived designs.

KIS-KELIM.—Literally a Kelim made by a maiden or young girl. (See *Anatolian Kelim*.)

KIRSHEHIR.—A few specimens of this rug

are received, coming from the Anatolian district of Turkey. They are like the Ladik, Ghiordes and Mellez in character, are expensive and used mainly for wall-hangings. So few are imported that they can hardly be called a commercial rug.

KONIAH.—A carpet is made at Koniah that can be classed as an ordinary long pile Turkish carpet. It has not much beauty.

KOULA.—(See *Coula*.)

KUBA.—A very few rugs of this variety are made, the name being given to some rugs like the Daghestan and Shirvan on account of a peculiar design which appears occasionally.

KURDISH PERSIAN.—These are thick, heavy rugs, which display in their coarse, barbaric color and rude designs the character of the wild, roving tribes that weave them. They are quite unlike Kurdistan rugs.

KURDISTAN.—A district of Eastern Turkey-in-Asia and Western Persia, producing some of the best quality Persian rugs. The Kurdistan rugs are usually remarkably hard at first, growing softer with use, until they become extremely soft and silky. The large carpets have a coarse pile and are very heavy. In addition to the woolen carpets with the cotton

warp, some are made with silk warp, and also all silk, and some prayer rugs are made of Kurk, very soft and of great rarity. The designs are distinctly Persian. Those known as Lule or Sarak are especially heavy and thick.

KURD JEJIM.—This jejim differs from the Anatol jejim in several ways. They are better in quality, some being very fine, and are much larger. Small woolen tufts and signs are frequently embroidered on them, presumably to ward off evil.

KURD KELIM.—(See *Kelim*.)

KURK.—A very soft quality of wool used in some Kurdistan rugs. It is the Winter combings of the Kurd sheep. Very small quantities are obtained, and rugs made of it are rare.

KUTHIA.—This is one of the most durable of the Turkish carpets, and is made of very fine wool. In general it follows the Kerman carpets, but is much better made, more closely woven, and, consequently, more wear-resisting. They are made in light, delicate colorings, and can be used in chambers, boudoirs, etc. Made in carpet sizes.

LADIK.—A rug belonging to the Anatolian varieties, and similar to the Ghiordes and Melles. They frequently come in prayer panel designs.

LAHORE.—In India, Lahore was formerly the centre of the jail rug industry, but with the increased demand for better Indian carpets and the growing objection to jail-made goods, the Lahore rugs have dropped out of the market, and if any quantities are now made they are known under various other names.

LULE.—A fine grade of Persian rug. (See *Kurdistan*.)

LURISTAN.—A province of Persia, producing a coarse rug of crude color and inferior quality. Here, also, is made the Ghileem.

MECCA.—Shiraz rugs, when woven with the palm design, are called Mecca rugs. They are usually more or less puffed or crooked.

MELEZ (also spelled *Meles*, *Melles*, etc.).—The rugs bearing this name belong to the Anatolian class and are similar to the Ghiordes in general character.

MERVAN.—A province of Persia, the name of which is often used as an auction term.

MESHED (also spelled *Mash-had*, *Mesh-hed*, etc.).—A town of the Persian province of Khorassan, producing a superior quality of carpet of the Khorassan variety. It is a popular name with auctioneers, and is often at-

tached to common Persian rugs to add to the variety of names in the catalogues.

MIRZAPORE.—A cheap Indian carpet, the lowest in price of all the Hindoostan weaves, and not considered very desirable. Is known by the brick red and other coarse colors used in it.

MOHAIR.—In Turkey some rugs are made of the coarse wool of the Angora goat, and these are termed Mohairs. They are not as highly esteemed as other rugs, for while they have a very silky appearance the wool is rather stiff and the rugs are not durable. The two best known are the Axar and Koula Mohairs, the latter being the better.

MOROCCO.—Some extremely durable carpets, or rather coarse, heavy, blanket-like fabrics, are woven in Morocco, especially in the districts of Dar-El-Beida and Robat, and the province of Dukalla. The designs are crude geometrical figures, zigzags and stripes. There is no pile.

MOUSOUL (also spelled *Moussoul* or *Mosul*).—A district of Turkey, population about 300,000. The rugs made resemble the Persian in texture, but the weave is somewhat heavier and a little coarser. In design the Persian palm, so frequently seen in Serebends,

is prominent, but other Persian designs are reproduced. It is a very good and very popular rug, and, like many Persians, is silky. Some are long and narrow, and some almost square. The sizes most commonly seen are 4 x 7 or 4 x 8 feet.

NAMDA.—A rug made in the Cashmere district of India. They are of felt, embroidered with bold outline patterns in colored silk, and are said to be of excellent quality, but are not properly counted among the rugs of commerce.

OSMANYE.—These rugs are of the same variety as the many rugs made in Asia Minor, and are, in fact, merely the better variety of Ghiordes. The pile is coarse. The design is geometrical, following the well-known Turkish patterns.

OUSHAK.—A town of 25,000 population, operating about 1,000 looms, and producing principally large, heavy saloon carpets with a thick, coarse pile. The designs are geometrical and typically Turkish as a rule, although some are now woven in the old Persian designs. Oushak carpets are classed with the general variety known as Smyrna. Oushak Bazaars, known in London as Yaprak, are noted for the very vivid reds and blues used in the grounds. Oushak is also spelled Ushak and Ouchak.

PANDJEH.—A town in Khorassan, Persia. The rugs made are of a low scale of color and design, with a thickish pile, and are among the poorest Persian carpets.

PERSIAN.—A broad term, covering all rugs and carpets made in Persia. A Persian rug may generally be known by the warp, which is almost invariably of cotton, but the rule has exceptions, as some Turkish rugs have cotton warps, while some Persians are wool. Persian rugs are usually finer in quality and better in design than either Turkish or Indian, and the dye used is more durable. It is conceded that rugs were made in Persia centuries before the art found its way to Turkey and India, and the inaccessibility of the country has done much to preserve the purity of Persian designs and quality from the deterioration due to the inroads of Western commercialism.

PRAYER RUGS.—The prayer rug, which can be of any variety of weave and of any make, is an accessory of the Mohammedan religion, and is distinguished by the design which, instead of being evenly balanced, points toward one end of the rug. The commonest design is an arch, representing the door of a mosque, and upon the rug the good Mohammedan kneels to pray, the point of the arch toward Mecca. Some of the more elaborate Persian

prayer rugs have many symbols added, as a hanging incense burner, verses from the Koran, the tree of life, etc. Others have simply three small medallions, one each for the knees and one to receive the forehead of the kneeling devotee.

SARAK.—(See *Kurdistan*.)

SARUK (See *Kerman*).—The finer variety of Kerman rug is known as Saruk.

SAVALAN.—A Persian carpet, made in several districts, but especially at Sultanabad. It may be called an extra Persian, softer in color, and a finer variety of the Feraghan.

SEDJEDES.—A term denoting any small-sized rug, about 4 x 6 feet.

SENNA (also spelled *Sinne* and *Senneh*).—Persian rugs, closely woven with a short, silky pile. They are made from the wool of the Demavend goat. The colors are opaline; as sapphire, gold and ivory, beautifully blended. The patterns, especially in the antiques, are lace-like, with a border in mosaic figures. In size they are small, the largest being about 5 x 7 feet.

SEISTAN (or *Sistan*).—A small province of Persia on the Afghanistan border, producing

carpets of good quality, but often of bad color. They more closely resemble Afghanistan than Persian rugs, and are classed with the former.

SERAPI.—The finest quality of Golrevan Persian rugs. (See *Golrevan*.)

SEREBEND (or *Mir*).—Persian, usually in long, narrow shapes. The texture is fine, with a closely woven pile. The grounds are red or blue, and in rare instances cream or ivory, upon which the palm design stands out clearly.

SHIRAZ.—A town of Farsistan, Persia. One of the medium-grade Persian rugs, notable for the selvage edge woven of colored wools. The designs are medallions or block patterns. In size Shiraz rugs vary from 4 x 6 feet to 8 x 15 feet, the latter size being unusually large.

SHIRVAN.—These rugs are made in the Caucasian district north of Persia, and have a short pile, closely woven, nearly approaching the finest Persian in quality. The commonest design is the prayer rug, but many have conventional geometrical patterns resembling Daghestan designs.

SHIRVAN KELIM.—(See *Kelim*.)

SHUSHA.—A Persian town of 27,000 popu-

lation. It is on the Caucasian border, adjoining Daghestan. Modern Daghestan rugs are made in large quantities.

SIRINIGAR.—A large city of Cashmere, India. (See *Cashmere*.)

SIVAS.—A province of Armenia, Turkey-in-Asia. According to consular reports the output of rugs here reaches an annual value of \$50,000. They are of the Anatolian variety, and the new rugs are of good quality.

SMYRNA.—A city of Adin province, Turkey, exporting rugs estimated worth \$264,000 yearly. From Smyrna the first rugs were brought West, and for many years it was the principal rug market of the East, and the name has consequently been used to designate roughly the carpets exported through that city. They include the Ghiordes, Bandour, Einelli, Osmanyé, Demirdjek, Hamadie, Gulistan, etc. In this country the term has been applied to domestic rugs woven in imitation of Turkish carpets.

SOU MAK (or *Sumak*, etc.)₂—Same as *Cashmere*, which see.

SPARTA.—One of the finest modern Turkish rugs. The designs vary considerably, as the looms are largely controlled by Western mer

chants, and under their supervision any design desired is woven. Some beautifully soft color effects are obtained, and Sparta rugs or carpets command about the highest prices of any Turkish weaves.

TANGIER.—The principal seaport town of Morocco, and the leading market for Moorish rugs.



TEHERAN. — Antique Teheran rugs are among the most prized souvenirs of Persia. In general texture they resemble the Feraghan rugs, and in design many bear conventionalized flower patterns. In modern Teheran rugs the Herati (or fish) design predominates.

TIFLIS.—A city of over one hundred thousand population in Russian Trans-Caucasia. It is the centre of the Trans-Caucasian rug trade, and many looms are operated in the city and near by.

YEZD.—A pileless cotton woven rug, made in Khorassan, Persia, for use in mosques.

YOURDES.—(Same as *Ghiordes*.)



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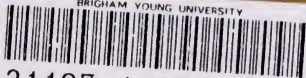
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